

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/NL 03/00898

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 B65G47/14

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 B65G B65B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category ° | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|------------|---|----------------------------|
| X | US 5 450 706 A (LATINI LEO) 19 September 1995 (1995-09-19) | 1-4 |
| A | column 13, line 18 - line 34; claims; figure 24 | 5,8,13, 14,16, 18-20 |
| | column 3, line 31 - line 44; figure 3 --- | |
| A | US 4 174 775 A (MCKNIGHT HUGH P ET AL) 20 November 1979 (1979-11-20) column 4, line 3 - line 20; claims; figures | 4-7,15 |
| A | EP 0 036 282 A (WRIGLEY W M JUN CO) 23 September 1981 (1981-09-23) abstract; claims; figures --- | 1,11,13, 14,18-20 |
| | -/- | |

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- "E" earlier document but published on or after the International filing date
- "L" document which may throw doubts on priority, claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- "P" document published prior to the International filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the International search

31 March 2004

Date of mailing of the International search report

13/04/2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA

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| C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT | | |
|--|--|-----------------------|
| Category | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
| A | GB 328 145 A (ROSE BROTHERS LTD;ALFRED GERMAN ROSE) 24 April 1930 (1930-04-24) page 3, line 97 - line 115; figures ----- | 1,4,13, 19 |

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Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. Claims Nos.: 21, 22 because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
pct rule 6.2(a)
2. Claims Nos.: because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
3. Claims Nos.: because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this International application, as follows:

1. As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
 No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

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| Patent document cited in search report | | Publication date | | Patent family member(s) | | Publication date |
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| US 5450706 | A | 19-09-1995 | NONE | | | |
| US 4174775 | A | 20-11-1979 | | BE 866028 A1 CA 1080660 A1 CH 627995 A5 DE 2816662 A1 FR 2387878 A1 GB 1591077 A IT 1094089 B JP 53133865 A SE 436862 B SE 7804268 A | | 17-10-1978 01-07-1980 15-02-1982 26-10-1978 17-11-1978 10-06-1981 26-07-1985 22-11-1978 28-01-1985 21-10-1978 |
| EP 0036282 | A | 23-09-1981 | EP | 0036282 A1 | | 23-09-1981 |
| GB 328145 | A | 24-04-1930 | NONE | | | |